NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11 June 2009 has been entered. In this amendment, claims 13 and 14 have been amended, claims 18, 20, and 29 have been canceled, and claim 33 has been added.

2.   Claims 13-17, 19, 21-28, and 30-33 are presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13-32 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of 11 March 2009 have been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

        Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jack Friedman on 13 August 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification, page 15, after line 15, insert:

"A computer readable medium comprises instructions adapted to perform the method pertaining to the algorithm of Figure 2a. A computer readable medium comprises instructions adapted to perform the method pertaining to the algorithm of Figure 2b."

Allowable Subject Matter

5.   Claims 13-17, 19, 21-28, 30-33 are allowed.

6.   The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 13 discloses of "said sender encoding the received certificate address, said encoding generating an encoded address" and "said sender merging the existing filename and the encoded address to generate a new filename." These features, in combination with the other limitations in the claims, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

Claim 23 discloses of "extracting the encoded address from the filename" and "decoding the extracted encoded address to generate a certificate address from which a digital certificate may be accessed." These features, in combination with the other limitations in the claims, are not anticipated by, nor made obvious over, the prior art of record.

Claim 13 also discloses "said sender generating a digital signature based on the file and the received private key" which must be accomplished by a machine.

Therefore, claim 13 is statutory with regards to 35 USC 101 because the process must be tied to a machine.

Claim 23 discloses "verifying the digital signature by executing an authentication algorithm in conjunction with the extract public key," which also must be accomplished by a machine. Therefore, claim 23 is statutory with regards to 35 USC 101 because the process must be tied to a machine.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

     a.   Carro (US 2005/0097114 A1) discloses a system and method for retrieving file processing software.

b.   Caughey (US 2004/0088360 A1) discloses a system and method for tracking receipt of electronic message.

c.   Fahn et al. (US 2003/0074555 A1) discloses a system and method for requesting and issuing a URL-based certificate in a public key infrastructure.

d.   Lee et al. (US Patent 7,395,426 B2) discloses a system and method for authenticating a content provider and assuring content integrity.

e.   Parmelee et al. (US 2002/0129256 A1) discloses a system and method for digitally signing electronic documents on an automated transaction machine.

f.   Stakutis et al. (US 2006/0259516 A1) discloses a system and method for encoding file meta-data into a file name.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sarah Su whose telephone number is (571) 270-3835. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30AM-5:00PM EST..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Sarah Su/
Examiner, Art Unit 2431

/Syed   Zia/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2431